

Illinois Liquor Control Commission

Governor Bruce Rauner • Chair Constance Beard • Executive Director U-Jung Choe

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Illinois, Naperville Partner for Liquor Inspection Pilot Program

CHICAGO—In an effort to improve the allocation of alcohol beverage compliance resources, the State of Illinois and the City of Naperville have recently joined forces to launch the Naperville Liquor Inspection Pilot Program. Under the agreement, the City of Naperville will carry out Standard Liquor Inspections for all Naperville license holders on behalf of the State of Illinois. Utilizing existing State resources, the Illinois Liquor Control Commission (ILCC) will provide financial assistance and training for designated local officers.

"This initiative fits in perfectly with the tenets of collaboration, consolidation and cost sharing that we've been focusing on here in Naperville, and we're encouraged by the fact that it will improve public safety by ensuring that 100 percent of our licensees are inspected," said Naperville Mayor Steve Chirico. "Naperville has strong relationships with our businesses and licensees, and a first-rate fire department that already inspects all commercial and retail occupancies annually. This initiative is a perfect fit for us."

Under the pilot program, the City of Naperville will conduct inspections for nearly 200 license holders between the completion of training and June 30, 2016. Inspections include areas of local concern, such as health/sanitation, license and insurance verifications, and deceptive practices. Under the terms of the agreement, local officials are required to report their findings to the state commission, which may result in further adjudicative action.

"By partnering with the City of Naperville on this pilot initiative, we are able to reallocate state resources in a manner that better suits the interests of the local government and the people of the State," said Connie Beard, ILCC Board Chair. "In the future, we anticipate entering into additional partnerships to improve annual inspection coverage. This will afford the ILCC the ability to allocate additional enforcement resources to target statewide concerns, such as illegal importation, trade practice violations and sale of alcohol to minors."

Naperville was chosen as the first pilot city, in part, due to its culturally diverse population of 145,000, its vibrant downtown that also houses a college, and its healthy infrastructure and involved citizenry. The six-month agreement between the State of Illinois and the City of Naperville took effect December 16, 2015.

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